

MfSMA NEWS

Missouri floodplain & Stormwater Managers Assoc.

Volume 2, Issue 8

Winter '04

ANNUAL ASFPM CONFERENCE

FROM: THE INSIDER A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS
The Association of State Floodplain Managers - January 2004
2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison, WI 53713
Website: www.floods.org Phone: 608-274-0123
E-Mail: ross@floods.org Fax: 608-274-0696

Save This Important Date: May 16-21, 2004

ASFPM's annual national conference this year will be held at the Central Gulf Coast in Biloxi, Mississippi. The inspiration for our 2004 theme, "Lighting the Way to Floodplain Management", is the famous Biloxi lighthouse located right next door to the conference hotel, and the countless professional training opportunities offered throughout the conference are geared to help participants become the guiding light for flood victims.

The program is really shaping up, with over 150 presentations and 25 workshops scheduled! You can view the draft Concurrent Sessions and Conference-At-A-Glance now at www.floods.org/gulfcoast. This conference page also contains Sponsorship and Exhibi-

tors Information, Presenter instructions and links to exciting things to see and do in the area. We will post the conference brochure and Registration Forms by the end of January, so be watching for that.

This international, week-long event will showcase the state-of-the-art in techniques, programs, resources, materials, equipment, accessories and services to accomplish flood mitigation and other community goals. You'll hear fascinating coastal success stories that demonstrate how flood losses have been reduced and how land and water management practices have improved since killer Hurricane Camille 35 years ago. Government, business, non-profit and academic sectors will share how they successfully integrate engineering, planning, open space and environmental protection all over the nation and the world to prepare for a bet-

ter, sustainable future. Service providers use this ideal opportunity to network with those responsible for flood hazard management decision-making. Our host city Biloxi is among the first in the nation to receive approval of their Hazard Mitigation Plan per DMA-2000 requirements, so we'll surely find a lot to learn in the area.

TO DO LIST for the ASFPM Conference MAY 16-21, 2004

* Call the hotel at 888-383-7037 to make your room reservation. The \$105 rate expires April 23, but our block could fill up before then so it's advisable to plan ahead! Note that the Beau Rivage requires payment of the first night's room-and-tax deposit at the time the reservation is made, and a 72-hour cancellation notice is in effect.

(Continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

President's Pen	2
MFSMA Online	2
FEMA's Multi-Hazard Map	3
EPA & Army Corps	4
National Flood Insurance	5
Election of MFSMA Officers	5
Two Feet or Not Two Feet	6
What is a Floodway?	8

2004 OFFICERS

TIM SMITH - PRESIDENT
940 Boonville Avenue
Room 306
Springfield, MO 65802
(417) 868-4005 Tel.
tsmith@greencountymo.org

JANET SANDERS VICE-PRESIDENT
City of Jackson
101 Court Street
Jackson, MO 63755
(573) 243-2300 Tel.
janetsanders@brick.net

NICK HEATHERLY - SECRETARY
City of Springfield
840 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO 65802
(417) 864-1059 Tel.
nheatherly@ci.springfield.mo.us

MAGDA VARGO - TREASURER
City of St. Louis
1200 Market Street
Room 400
St. Louis, MO 63103
(314) 622-3666 Tel.
vargom@stlouiscity.com

**Pat Fitzgerald - Immediate
Past President**
City of Columbia
701 East Broadway
PO Box N
Columbia, MO 65205
(573) 874-7250
JPF@ci.columbia.mo.us

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN



By: Tim Smith, P.E. CFM-Association President

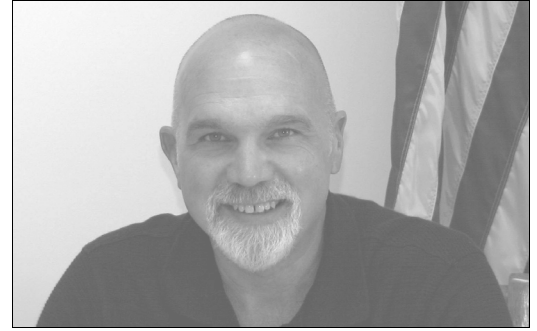
Missouri Floodplain & **STORMWATER** Managers' Association. Remember? New name.....new logo.....broader mission.....to serve YOU better! At our November meeting the Board met with officials from Missouri DNR to introduce them to our organization and its mission. Feedback was positive. Everyone agreed that an organization like MFSMA can play a very effective role in communicating between the agency and its customers in the floodplain and stormwater management business.

MFSMA continues to grow! We have already received renewals and new memberships for over 200 members this year - and we

have our sights on our next goal: 300 members by this time next year!

In order to achieve this we want to provide useful services and benefits to our members. We need your feedback! To make it easier for you to contact us, we established a website. Details on the website are in this issue. Check it out!

Professional development opportunities are a high priority for everyone. As you will see in this issue, SEMA has a continuing slate of seminars offered around the State. We are also planning a daylong technical course on Letters of Map Change which will be offered in each



region of the State during the coming year. Let us hear from you if there are other professional development opportunities you would like to see made available.

And don't forget our annual conference. It returns to Jefferson City this year - April 28 & 29. We will be electing officers and directors for even numbered regions (see map in this issue). Planning is well underway. Look for an announcement soon! As always it will be a great value. We hope to see you there!

CORRECTION

In the Fall '03, Volume 2, Issue 7, MFSMA newsletter, the Rising Issues article was credited to Mr. Scott Samuels. However, this article was actually written by Teya Stice, MFSMA Area 2 Director.

MSFMA ONLINE: www.msfsma.com

Membership Applications are now available on the MFSMA website. If you know of anyone who would like to join us, please refer them to our website.



Also, we're looking for photos to add to the site. If you have any photos of flooding in your community or other pertinent events, please email us at webmaster@mfsma.com.

NOTICE:

This will be the last edition of the MFSMA News available in print form. Future editions will be transmitted via e-mail. If you do not have access to email, please contact Dale Thomure at 573-431-3577 to arrange for mail copies.

FEMA'S MULTI-HAZARD MAP MODERNIZATION & COOPERATING TECHNICAL PARTNER PROGRAMS

By: Bob Franke



FEMA's mission – like that of the new Department of Homeland Security – includes mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all hazards. FEMA's Multi-Hazard Map Modernization Program endeavors to achieve this mission while supporting the goals of DHS by systematically modernizing the nation's maps in an all-hazards context.

The Flood Insurance Rate Maps are an important part of the Multi-Hazard Map Modernization Program. One of the key objectives of the Multi-Hazard Map Modernization program is to increase local involvement and ownership of the flood mapping process. Local ownership of the maps reinforces greater and broader participation in the development and maintenance of the data. To meet this objective, FEMA created the **Cooperating Technical Partner Program (CTP)**.

Developing and maintaining partnerships and leveraging resources are fundamental to the success of map modernization. Through the CTP qualified partners actively participate in the creation and maintenance of the flood hazard maps. Through the partnership, FEMA may provide training, technical assistance, and mentoring to assist partners to meet FEMA map standards. Financial assistance may also be provided for the activities shown in the table below. Availability of financial assistance will depend on priorities determined by the FEMA Regional office in coordination with SEMA.

FUNDED ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
1. Refinement of Creation of Approximate Zone A Boundaries	The Partner works with FEMA to perform analyses to refine the Zone A boundaries shown on the effective FIRM or create new Zone A areas to be included on the FIRM.
2. Hydrologic & Hydraulic Analyses and Floodplain Mapping	The Partner develops digital engineering data and floodplain mapping using Geographic Information System based or traditional hydrologic and hydraulic modeling.
3. Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) Preparation	The Partner digitizes information from the effective hardcopy FIRM and prepares a DFIRM that meets FEMA specifications.
4. Redelineation of Detailed Floodplain Boundaries Using Updated Topographic Data	The Partner redelineates the effective floodplain boundaries shown on the FIRM using more up-to-date topographic data.
5. Digital Topographic Data Development	The Partner develops digital topographic data for flood hazard identification purposes.

The technical capabilities required from the Partner will vary based on the mapping activity or project that is to be undertaken. In general your community or agency must have the following:

- ❑ Processes and/or systems in place that support mapping or data collection activities that contribute to flood hazard identification and that are not federally funded;
- ❑ Demonstrated capability to perform a given mapping activity;
- ❑ In-house staff capabilities in the appropriate technical area for the given mapping activity OR have the in-house staff capability to monitor a contractor(s) and approve completed products for contracted activities.
- ❑ Partners that receive funding from FEMA must be able to perform the financial management activities required as part of a Cooperative Agreement.

Current Partners in Missouri include the City of Jackson (activities 2 & 5), Greene County (activity 3), the City of Lee's Summit (activities 2 & 5), and SEMA (activities 1, 2, & 5). Partnership details, and general information about the Cooperating Technical Partner Program, are available at www.fema.gov/fhm/ctp_main.shtm. You may also contact me by phone at (816) 283-7073 or e-mail at bob.franke@dhs.gov.

ANNUAL ASFPM CONFERENCE - Continued

(Continued from page 1)

* Pledge your sponsorship and/or reserve your exhibit spot now to ensure you don't miss out! * Mark April 15 on your calendar -- it's the deadline for the early registration discount.

* Start thinking about what you can donate to the SILENT AUCTION fundraiser for the ASFPM Foundation. Our goal is to get something unique and fun from every state. Some of last year's donations included a Salmon Fishing Trip, Hawaiian Kona Coffee, Idaho Gemstones, framed nature print, case of wine, autographed Packer football, custom-built golf club, weather radio, restaurant gift certificates, genuine maple syrup, and many various hospitality baskets.

* Direct any questions and concerns to the ASFPM staff at 608-274-0123 or asfpm2@floods.org.

Make your plans to come to the Gulf Coast next May with us and experience Mississippi's incomparable history, hospitality, cuisine and Southern charm!

The 2004 Conference Team -- Steve, Harold, Rod, Dan, Diane, Anita, Chad

EPA AND ARMY CORPS ISSUE WETLANDS DECISION

FROM: THE INSIDER A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS

The Association of State Floodplain Managers - January 2004

2809 Fish Hatchery Road, Madison, WI 53713

Phone: 608-274-0123 Fax: 608-274-0696 Website: www.floods.org E-Mail: ross@floods.org

President Bush, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) recently reiterated the Administration's commitment to the goal of "no net loss" of wetlands in the United States. EPA and the Corps announced that they would not issue a new rule on federal regulatory jurisdiction over isolated wetlands.

"Across the Federal Government, the Bush Administration has reaffirmed and bolstered protections for wetlands, which are vital for water quality, the health of our streams and wildlife habitat," said EPA Administrator Mike Leavitt. Assistant Secretary of the Army John Paul Woodley Jr. added, "We will continue our efforts to ensure that the Corps' regulatory program is as effective, efficient and responsive as it can be."

The Supreme Court's 2001 decision in the case of *Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County v. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers* (commonly referred to as to "SWANCC") overturned the Corps' assertion of federal jurisdiction over certain isolated wetlands based on the presence of migratory birds. EPA and the Corps responded by issuing revised guidance to their field offices. At the same time, the Agencies reaffirmed federal jurisdiction over the majority of wetlands not impacted by the decision.

After soliciting public comment to determine if further regulatory clarification was needed, the EPA and the Corps have decided to preserve the federal government's authority to protect the Nation's wetlands. The agencies will continue to monitor implementation of this important program to ensure its effectiveness.

The Administration is currently implementing 30 programs to protect and restore millions of acres of our Nation's wetlands. These include the Food Security Act's "Swampbuster" requirements and the Wetlands Reserve Program, both under the authority of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. EPA programs include its "Five-Star Restoration" grant program, the EPA wetlands grants programs and the National Estuary Program. Other federal programs include: the Fish and Wildlife Service's "Partners in Wildlife" program, the National Marine Fisheries Service's Coastal Wetlands Restoration Program and the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, composed of the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture, the Administrator of EPA, and Members of Congress.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM WORKSHOPS SET FOR FALL/WINTER

Eight one-day National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) workshops will begin in March 2004. These workshops are for Insurance Agents, Lenders, Real Estate Agents, Land Surveyors, Engineers, Architects, Real Estate Appraisers, Building Officials and Code Administrators, Certified Floodplain Managers and Government Officials.

The workshops are:

March 02, 2004

First Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
300 College
Kennett, MO

March 03, 2004

Cape Girardeau County
Administration Building
First Floor Conference Room
#1 Barton Square
Jackson, MO

March 16, 2004

Branson Fire Station #1
Training Room
110 Crosby
Branson, MO

March 17, 2004

Sedalia Chamber of Commerce
Second Floor Conference Room
600 East Third Street
Sedalia, MO

April 6, 2004

Daniel Boone Building
Columbia City Hall
Mezzanine Conference Room
(between 1st and 2nd floors)
7th and Broadway
Columbia, MO

April 07, 2004

Sunset Hills City Hall
Assembly Room
3939 South Lindbergh Boulevard
Sunset Hills, MO

April 20, 2004

Clinton Community Center
Room: 114
1004 East Sedalia Avenue
Clinton, MO

April 21, 2004

Grain Valley Community Center
713 Main Street
Grain Valley, MO

The morning session from 8 a. m. – noon focuses on “NFIP – 2004” presented by SEMA. The afternoon session from 1-5 p.m. focuses on “Exploring the NFIP in 2004” presented by NFIP Region VII. Participants will learn about: terminology, regulations, construction requirements, floodplain maps, mandatory purchase requirements and legislative updates and compliance requirements.

Continuing Education Credits: 6 hours for Real Estate Agents/Brokers; 7 hours for Certified Floodplain Managers; 8 hours for Insurance Agents, Real Estate Appraisers, Land Surveyors, Building Inspectors & Code Administrators (ICC).

Registration Information: A \$30 fee is payable to Johnson County Community College, National Flood Insurance Program, 601 North Mur-Len, Suite 13-B, Olathe, KS 66062-5445.

It is that time again...

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE MISSOURI FLOODPLAIN AND STORMWATER MANAGERS ASSOCIATION

Election of officers for the Missouri Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association (MFSMA) will be held during the MFSMA Annual Conference. The conference will be held on April 28 and 29, 2004, at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, MO. The newly elected officers will take office during the conference.

Per the Associations' By-Laws, the current vice president will move into the office of president. The office of vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, along with the eleven numbered area directors (areas 2, 4, 6, and 8) will be elected during the conference. If you are interested or if you know someone who may be interested in serving the association either as an officer or area director, please contact Roger Connell at the State Emergency Management Agency at 573-526-9129.

TWO FEET OR NOT TWO FEET? WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

BY: L. SCOTT SAMUELS, P.E.

CERTIFIED FLOODPLAIN MANAGER

By now, hopefully everybody knows that, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standard for new residential structures is that the lowest floor must be elevated “at or above the Base Flood Elevation (BFE)” – 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 60. But what most people don’t realize is, that by adopting this minimum standard, one day there could legally be one foot of water above the lowest floor elevation or the current BFE.

How can that be? Simple, it’s a direct result of how floodways are defined for NFIP purposes. After a detailed study has been performed on a stream reach and the floodplain boundaries and BFE have been determined, a floodway can be defined on that particular stream reach. A floodway is determined, by “squeezing” the boundaries of the floodplain together (reducing the cross-sectional flow area) until the calculated water surface elevations increase up to one (1) foot (see Figure 1) while still passing the base flood event. This floodway is referred to as a “1 foot surcharged floodway”. There are other factors that are considered when determining a floodway. One factor is that the reduction in conveyance must be equal on both sides of the centerline of the stream. Hydraulically speaking, this means one side of the creek is not having more of a reduction in the conveyance of flows, than the other side. Also, the “squeezing” shall not go beyond the current stream banks and into the creek’s channel, thus ensuring that the entire stream channel will always be preserved as an “open area”, to pass the base flood. That is why it is so very important to regulate development in regulatory floodways. The higher development standards that apply to regulatory floodways ensure that any additional development in the regulatory floodway will not cause water surface elevations to rise during the base flood.

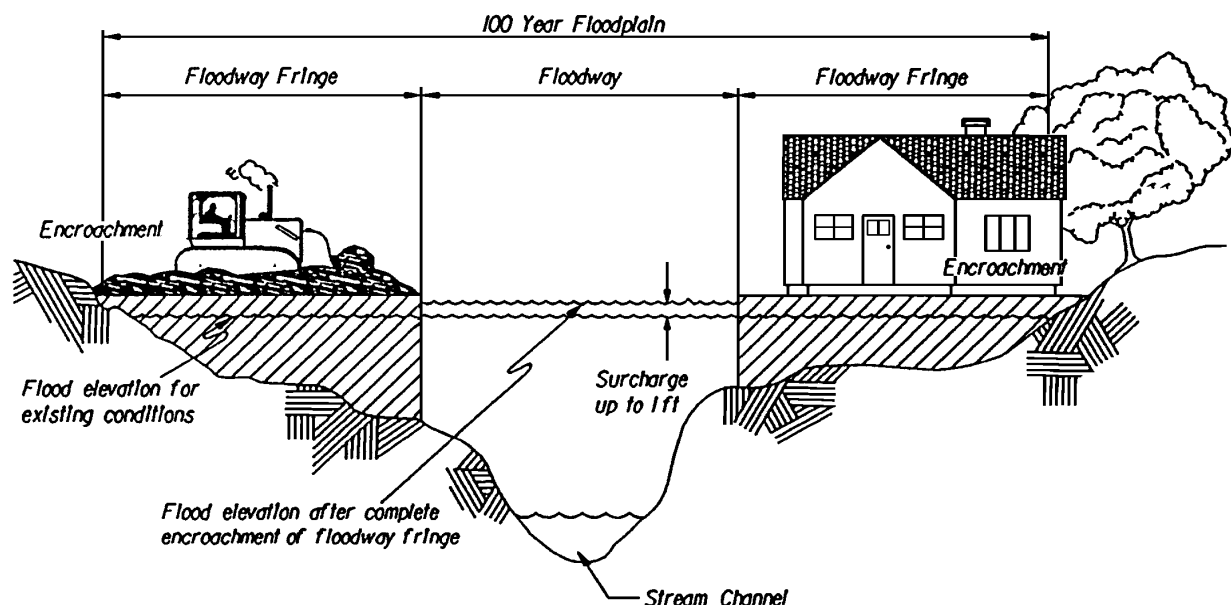
So why define a floodway in the first place if it allows the water surface elevations to increase by a foot? Because the positives results of defining a floodway far outweigh any negatives. Let me explain. The main positive features of having a floodway is that the floodway, when properly administered, reserves an area to pass the base flood that will be free from future obstructions, thus reducing future flood damages. It also allows for development in the floodway fringe without requiring every single project that is proposed, no matter how small, to perform a hydraulic analysis of the stream to determine the impacts of the project on the current flooding conditions. Not having a floodway designated would create a tracking nightmare for the local community and would substantially increase the cost of new single-family structures. The community would be responsible for tracking all development in the floodplain, deciding when the floodplain was “fully developed”, and prohibiting an further development at that point in time. Developers or individual homeowners would bear the cost of engineering studies to determine these floodplain impacts.

So what can your community do? To fully realize the benefits of having a regulatory floodway defined, your community needs to adopt building standards greater than the NFIP minimum standards to truly provide some additional measure of protection, and I am not just talking about adopting a standard that requires the lowest floor to be “one foot above the BFE”. If your community only adopts a “one foot above BFE” standard, then it is setting up the situation where homeowners

think they have one foot of freeboard above the base flood, but if the floodway fringe is ever completely filled, then their lowest floor could be the same elevation as the base flood someday. People who have experienced flooding firsthand know that it doesn't take a great depth of water in a home to do a lot of damage. For these reason I recommend that communities adopt a standard requiring the lowest floor to be a minimum of two (2) feet above the BFE in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA).

There are several great reasons for adopting the "two (2) feet above the BFE" standard in your community. First this standard takes into account the future rise due to development in the floodway fringe. Therefore, sometime in the future, when water surface elevations have legally raised one foot, the structure should hopefully still have that one foot of protection against the base flood. Another reason, even though detailed studies are based on sound engineering principles and practices, is that there is still an art in making floodplain and floodway analyses. Since floods don't read flood maps, the "two feet above the BFE" standard takes into account some of the uncertainty associated with floodplain calculations. This also might help mitigate any unforeseen circumstance that might occur during a flooding event such as floating flood debris blocking culverts, channels or bridge openings. These obstructions could cause a temporary rise in the base flood that the additional freeboard requirements could help mitigate since the FIRM does not identify these areas of temporary obstructions. And finally, by building the "lowest floor two feet above the BFE", the structure would be eligible for a lower insurance rate. This could add up to a substantial savings on a homeowner's annual insurance premium over the life of the loan.

I hope this article has given you a better understanding, of what the squiggly lines and floodway boundaries represent on your community's FIRM. Even if you can't convince your governing body to adopt a higher standard, hopefully you will be able to explain to the developer or homeowner as the Floodplain Administrator, the advantages of elevating higher than your community ordinance requires. If you would like to talk about these issues with me, please feel free to contact me at 573.526.9119. Or if you like, comments can be sent to me via e-mail, at ssamuels@mail.state.mo.us



**A PUBLICATION OF THE MISSOURI FLOODPLAIN
& STORMWATER MANAGERS ASSOCIATION**

C/O Dale Thomure, CFM
Community Development Director
9 Bennett
Park Hills, MO 63601



WHAT IS A FLOODWAY?

By: Russ Todd

What is a floodway? The city of Frontenac, Missouri defines a floodway as:

“The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one (1) foot.”

But what do you do if the watercourse is completely surrounded by a floodplain and is contained by flank levees? Is there a real “floodway”? When floodwater overflows the flank levees along the watercourse, the floodwater will continue inundating the existing, larger floodplain as far as the eye can see!

This is the case along the Missouri river where Creve Coeur Lake is located. The lake itself is located entirely within the Missouri river floodplain. There is an outflow creek that runs from the lake to the river. This creek, according to the FIRM (Flood Insurance Rate Map) has a floodway area. But with the flank levees protecting areas of the floodplain from the floodwaters of the creek, a real floodway along that creek is impossible to have. Where does it end? If floodwater overflows the flank levees, it will flood the surrounding floodplain, which runs for miles. There is no real place where the floodway of the creek can be determined.

This is one subject that might cause you a “floodpain”. The way this issue was solved in my former jurisdiction

was to have a reputable engineering firm perform the hydrological analysis on the creek and the existing Missouri river floodplain. They then submitted map data along with a letter explaining the data and analysis to come to the conclusion that there is no real floodway along the creek. This allowed the Board of Adjustment to consider a structure in this area that would be wet-floodproofed but not cause a rise in the area still determined by the FIRM as a floodway.

Sometimes logic does win out. Of course, in your jurisdiction, you might want to do things differently and as the Floodplain Manager, you have some options. Consult your city engineer and local ordinance to be sure of your options.